

# HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 41

By Lynn

A RESOLUTION to create a joint legislative committee to study  
offsite early voting locations.

WHEREAS, state election laws have little to say about offsite early voting locations  
(EVL's) in Tennessee's counties for primary and general elections; and

WHEREAS, there are currently no laws or rules governing county election  
commissioners and their decisions about when and where to place EVL's; and

WHEREAS, there is currently established no formal procedure for offsite EVL's to be  
requested, located, operated, or funded; and

WHEREAS, there is no provision in the law to guarantee that Cities which request  
funding for an offsite EVL for its citizens will be provided the opportunity, or that the opportunity  
is equitable as compared to other locations in the county; and

WHEREAS, the decision to provide an offsite EVL may create an inconsistent  
opportunity for citizens to vote due to certain factors, such as scheduling, hours of operation,  
and the number of voting machines made available for voters; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED  
FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE  
CONCURRING, that a special joint study committee shall hereby be established in an effort to  
examine the current processes employed by counties for offsite EVL's, including, but not limited  
to, the issues of location, scheduling, hours of operation, the process by which a City may make  
a request, and funding.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee shall be charged with creating  
recommendations for legislation directly regarding the alleviation of any problems uncovered by  
the committee's research.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee shall consist of four (4) members of the House of Representatives and four (4) members of the Senate, to be appointed by the respective speakers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all appropriate state agencies shall provide assistance to the special joint committee upon request of the chair.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all legislative members of the special joint committee who are duly elected members of the General Assembly shall remain members of such committee until the committee reports its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the special joint committee shall be convened by the member with the most years of continuous service in the General Assembly, and at its first meeting shall elect a chair, vice-chair, and such other officers the committee deems necessary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the special committee shall timely report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the House and Senate State and Local Committees and to the 105th General Assembly no later than January 1, 2008, at which time the committee shall cease to exist.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.